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to modern ideas of propriety, but also to those of the author's time, except in the dissolute circles for which the tales were originally written. Some of the stories however, teach morality and the literary style and method are beautiful and commendable while the pictures of society are truthful. The implications of customary vice are simply reflections of life as the author knew it. "Gil Blas" by Le Sage, continuing in this vein, we may call a tale of adventure in which everything is set down as it happens good, bad and indifferent; important and trivial, with a hero who is something of a rogue although the wickedness is incidental and is described in such a way that the reader never mistakes it for virtue even when the writer tells it with a relish. The implication that wrongdoing is common, though undoubtedly conveyed, leaves the impression only that it is common among the people and under the circumstances of the tale which is undoubtedly correct. It would greatly aid the library censor if he could have annotations of this sort on all books intended for promiscuous public circulation. For his purposes, in fact, all literature should be evaluated. By the light of this one color of the critical spectrum the two or three books just noted possess at least some of the elements of greatness; yet good people differ regarding the extent to which they should be made freely accessible to the general public. I have tried to set down regarding them data on which all may agree, for the purpose of impressing upon you the fact that disagreement is not so much regarding the data, as regarding the application to them of principles which, if they have been stated correctly, are few, simple and readily accepted. We have been lightly skimming the surface of a subject vital to all who have to do with the production and distribution of books—to authors, editors, publishers, booksellers and above all to us librarians. The ranks of readers are swelling to-day; it is our boast that we are doing our best to swell them. They are recruited from classes whose literature

—if we may so extend the term—has been oral rather than written, whose standards of propriety are sometimes those of an earlier and grosser age, whose ideas of right and wrong are beclouded by ignorance and distorted by prejudice. And at the same time hosts of our people, with little background of hereditary refinement to steady them, have become suddenly rich, "beyond the dreams of avarice." The shock has upset their ideas and their standards. Riches have come so suddenly and so vastly even to the educated, to those whose culture dates back for generations, that it has overturned their ideals also. Our literature is menaced both from below and above. Books that distinctly commend what is wrong, that teach how to sin and tell how pleasant sin is, sometimes with and sometimes without the added sauce of impropriety, are increasingly popular, tempting the author to imitate them, the publishers to produce, the bookseller to exploit. Thank Heaven they do not tempt the librarian. Here at last is a purveyor of books who has no interest in distributing what is not clean, honest, and true. The librarian may, if he will—and he does will, say to this menacing tide, "thus for shalt thou go and no farther."

The PRESIDENT: The next thing on the program is the

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY

The report of the Secretary will treat of a number of topics relating to the history of the Association or of general library progress during the past year, which do not seem to fall within the province of any of its other officers and committees.

Change of officers. One change in the personnel of the officers elected at Asheville has occurred through the resignation of Miss Helen E. Haines, who served the Association with rare fidelity and devotion for 16 years as recorder, vice-president and managing editor of its official organ. The resulting vacancy was filled

by the appointment of Miss Gratia Countryman, librarian of the Minneapolis public library.

Membership. According to the Constitution the membership in good standing at the beginning of this conference comprises all who have paid dues for the calendar years 1907 and 1908 to the present time. Of such there are about 1950.

Those still delinquent for 1907 dues at the close of this meeting will, after one month's notice, be dropped from the roll, leaving in good standing only those who have paid for 1908.

An encouraging feature of our present membership is the marked increase in library members within the past year. There can be no doubt that this increase is chiefly due to the change which makes the "Bulletin of the Association" (which includes the annual volume of Proceedings) available to members only, and thus amply justifies the business wisdom of the publication of our own Proceedings.

A. L. A. Bulletin. In accordance with the decision of the Council at Asheville, the "Bulletin," of which before that time 3 tentative issues had been issued, was definitely adopted as in effect if not in actual name, the official organ of the Association and the "Library Journal" shortly thereafter ceased to act as such.

The immediately succeeding numbers of the "Bulletin" were devoted to the "Handbook" and the "Proceedings" and it has been published bi-monthly throughout the year and sent without cost to every member.

The Association at other meetings. The Association was represented by an officially accredited delegate at the annual meetings of 7 state associations during October, 1907.

It was not originally intended that this representation should be by an officer of the Association; in fact all arrangements had been made for Mr Bostwick's western visit before his election to the presidency made possible the happy coincidence. The President has already made to the Council a stimulating report of this visit

(see Council proceedings p. 409) and the Secretary has had personal testimony from the various meetings visited of the resultant pleasure and profit.

The Association was officially represented at the regular annual meeting of the British Library Association at Glasgow in August, 1907, by J. C. M. Hanson of the Library of Congress. This representation was fraught with important results in the matter of cooperative cataloging and Mr Hanson's report was printed in full in the "Bulletin" for March 1908.

Publicity. So much as has been possible of the work formerly carried on by the Publicity committee, has been continued by the Secretary through the Executive offices, in the following specific points. Copies of the "Bulletin" for March, 1908, which contained the annual report on Gifts and bequests, were sent to a selected number of daily papers in all parts of the country, that regularly publish library items. Exchange arrangements have been made by which, in return for the "Bulletin" the Executive offices regularly receive copies of 15 library journals published in America and Europe. The "Centralblatt für Bibliothekswesen" was the only journal solicited which refused to enter into such an exchange. Pictures of officers; announcements of the annual meeting; outline and full text of many papers, program, etc., have been furnished to the local committee and the several press associations both east and west.

Executive offices. For years the Association needed and looked forward to a permanent Headquarters in charge of a paid executive officer who should give his entire time to its business. Two years ago at Narragansett Pier the Committee on Ways and means reported subscriptions to the amount of about \$5000 for this purpose. This sum seemed sufficient to warrant a beginning and in September 1906 offices were opened in Boston in charge of E. C. Hovey. It was thought that the very action might attract financial support or that the new executive

officer might secure further subscriptions until such time as the regular income of the Association should become sufficient to carry on the work. Neither expectation was realized and after 16 months, on January, 1908, having expended all of the original \$5000 and a considerable additional sum (which could ill be spared) from the general treasury, it became necessary to retrench and the services of the executive officer were discontinued.

With the generous cooperation of the Publishing board however, the offices have been continued in Boston and the necessary business of the Association, consisting chiefly of the collection and recording of the annual dues and the preparation, publication and mailing of the 6 numbers of the "Bulletin," in addition to the entire work of the Publishing board, has been carried on by Miss Nina E. Browne under the direction of the Executive board. While this arrangement allows to be done only the actually necessary work and does not permit any of those many lines of useful and inspirational enterprise from which so much could result in an ideal headquarters, yet the result for the past six months seems to show clearly that even under the present slender auspices, enough has been done to show the distinct benefits of centralized business activities and the misfortunes which would result from closing the headquarters offices and scattering the work as of old. Our quarters in Boston cost \$1000 per year, and the lease on them expires on September 1st next. Advantageous quarters in other cities have been offered free, and so the matter comes up to the assembling of the present conference.

Politics in library appointments. The undue weight of partisan politics and personal influence in determining library appointments is not a new evil, and while on the contrary there is no lack of refreshing examples of conspicuously satisfactory appointments where merit and fitness might not have been expected to control, yet so long as any examples are af-

firmed so flagrantly unsatisfactory as those which prevailed within the past year in the choice of the state librarian in a southern state (L. J. 33:101) and of the executive officer of the library commission in a western state, so long will such methods and standards of selection fail of the approval of right minded library workers.

Necrology for 1907-8. Losses from our membership by death during the year that has passed since the Asheville conference have been more than usually numerous and the necrology list contains the names of some of our oldest members and of several of exceptional influence and usefulness in their several communities. The following persons were members at the time of their death.

Dr James Bain, Jr., librarian of the Toronto public library, died May 22, 1908, after a lingering illness. Dr Bain was one of the most loyal members of the library profession in this country and was one of its ablest leaders in Canada. He was born in London, England, in 1842, came to Canada early in life, and was educated in Toronto schools and at the Toronto university. In 1883 he was appointed librarian of the Toronto public library and held this position until his death. The library developed broadly under his administration, and the character of its collection reflected his scholarship and knowledge, especially is its valuable Canadiana due to his personal interest and research. As President of the Ontario library association, and by repeated service as one of its councillors he was enabled to give of his enthusiasm and energy in the cause of library progress in Canada in general; and as a member for 25 years of the American Library Association, serving on various of its committees, also as councillor of the Bibliographical society of America, Dr Bain's influence was far-reaching.

Willis Arthur Bardwell, assistant librarian of the Brooklyn public library, died on March 27, 1908, after a lingering illness, having suffered from an attack of

gripe which later developed into pneumonia. Mr Bardwell was born in Williamstown, Mass., in 1840 and came to Brooklyn in his early youth. His love of reading and studious habits made work among books his true vocation, and his first position was in a book store on Atlantic avenue, then the main business street of Brooklyn. In 1869 he went to the Athenaeum reading room and when it was merged with the Mercantile library in 1885 he became librarian. When the Mercantile library was consolidated with the Brooklyn library, Mr Bardwell was advanced until he succeeded Stephen B. Noyes as librarian. On April 23, 1901, Mr Bardwell was appointed assistant librarian of the Brooklyn public library. In his almost seven years of whole-hearted service in the Brooklyn public library, Mr Bardwell gained the affection of all the library staff, and his death was mourned as that of a personal friend. Mr Bardwell was a member of the A. L. A. (no. 772) from 1890 to the time of his death, and attended six of its conferences.

L. Edna Brooks, a member of the staff of the Cambridge (Mass.) public library and since 1906 a member of the American Library Association, died at her home in Cambridge in December, 1907.

Mrs Kate Alpine Henderson, librarian of the Joliet (Ill.) public library, died Dec. 19, 1907. Mrs Henderson was born Aug. 9, 1848, in Elizabeth, N. J. In 1858 she moved from Milwaukee, Wis., to Joliet. She was married to James Edward Henderson about 28 years ago. From 1865 to about 1900 Mrs Henderson was actively engaged in educational work as Principal of the Joliet high school, Inspector at large and Superintendent of the public schools at Joliet. For the last eight years of her life her best efforts were devoted to the library and its success is a monument to her fidelity and executive ability. She had been a member of the A. L. A. since 1901 (no. 2157) and attended four conferences.

Alexander Maitland died at Princeton, N. J., Oct. 25, 1907. Mr Maitland was a

nephew of James Lenox and prominent in religious and charitable movements in New York City. In library matters he was equally active. From 1880 until the consolidation in 1895 he was a trustee and treasurer of the Lenox library. Largely through his individual efforts the Lenox library was included with the Astor library and the Tilden trust in forming the present New York public library. He became an original trustee of the library and remained on the board until his death. At different times he served on the Executive, Finance, Library and Circulation committees. Both in his life time and in his will he was a generous donor of the library. Mr Maitland has been a member of the Association continuously since 1896 (no. 1545) and was at the time of his death a trustee of the Endowment fund, in which capacity he had served for several years.

Francis W. Vaughan, librarian of the Social law library at the Court house in Boston, died at Capri, Italy, April 2, 1908. He was 74 years of age and had held his position as librarian for 38 years. In 1853 he graduated from Harvard and was admitted to the Suffolk bar, but never practiced. He became civil assistant to Captain Andrew A. Humphreys and Lieutenant Henry L. Abbott, U. S. engineers, in the preparation of their report on the Mississippi river and delta. As librarian Mr Vaughan developed the library until it has become one of the best professional collections in the United States. He was one of the oldest members of the Association, entering its ranks in 1877 as no. 94 and being a member at his death.

Hon. Peter White, for three years a member of the State library commission of Michigan, died at Marquette, Mich., June, 1908. Mr White was born in Rome, N. Y., Oct. 31, 1830. He was engaged in business as a lawyer, real estate agent and banker, being for forty years President of the First National Bank of Marquette. He was closely associated with many prominent educational societies, was a Regent of the University of Michigan

and had seen service as a member of the state legislature and as state senator. He became a member of the Association (no. 2304) in 1901.

The following persons have been members of the Association at some time in the past but were not members at the time of death:

Miss Mary Louise Dalton, librarian of the Missouri historical society, died in her home in St. Louis on June 13, 1907, after a brief illness. Miss Dalton was born in Wentzville, Mo., April 1, 1869, and studied at St. Charles college, St. Charles, Mo., from which she was graduated in 1887. For several years she was engaged as stenographer in New York, but later came to St. Louis and for five years was well known in newspaper work. She also did other literary work, specializing in genealogy and state history. Following her appointment as librarian of the Missouri historical society, in 1903, she became deeply interested in Missouri history, and acquired a reputation as an authority upon matters relating to the early Spanish and French settlement of St. Louis and the surrounding country. She prepared the interesting exhibit of the society shown at the St. Louis Exposition in 1904. Miss Dalton became a member of the American Library Association at its St. Louis conference, in 1904; she was an active member of the D. A. R. and the Daughters of the united confederacy.

Ernst F. L. Gauss, first assistant librarian of the Chicago public library, died after a short illness of pneumonia, on Dec. 23, 1907, at his home in Chicago. Mr Gauss was born in Stuttgart in 1842, and came to New York at the age of 17. He enlisted on the breaking out of the Civil War, and served for two years, being honorably discharged in 1863. On leaving the army Mr Gauss went to Missouri, where he studied theology in the Missouri evangelical school, and later he pursued his studies in an episcopal academy in Ohio. In 1880 he came to Chicago and in 1887 entered the Chicago public library, where he was later made first as-

sistant librarian. He is survived by a widow and four children. He became a member of the A. L. A. in 1893 (no. 1165.)

Dr Bernard James Harrington, professor of chemistry McGill university, Montreal, from 1871 to 1907, died November 29, 1907. In addition to his eminence as a teacher he had done important work on the Canadian geological survey and was an authority on the mineralogy and mining industries of Canada. He was a member of the University library committee and became a member of the American Library Association in 1900 (no. 2012) at the Montreal conference.

Mrs Mary L. (Stillman) Groth, from 1897 to 1905 superintendent of circulation in the Milwaukee public library and until her marriage two years ago a member of the A. L. A., died at her home in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, June 23, 1907.

Hetty Shields Jarnagin, a graduate of Pratt Institute library school, 1907, and formerly librarian of the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, died in Pittsburg, January 16, 1908, of pneumonia. She became a member of the Association in 1899 (no. 1866)

Henry Nelson Bullard, formerly librarian of Park College, Parkville, Mo., died at Kansas City, Mo., February 12, 1908. He became a member of the Association in 1898 (no. 1821)

VOTED, that the report be accepted and placed on file.

THE PRESIDENT: We will now listen to the report of the Treasurer, which the Secretary will read.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

January 1 to June 1, 1908

The report of the Treasurer covering the period from August 8 to December 31, 1907 was published in the May (1908) number of the "Bulletin." That report is supplemented herewith by a statement of transactions from January 1 to June 1, 1908.

Difficulty was experienced at the beginning of the term in handling the system existing at Headquarters, and some modifi-

cations were found necessary. These modifications were secured through the Executive board and the Finance committee. An entire new set of books was opened and a voucher system introduced.

The books were properly closed December 31 1907, at which date the report in the May "Bulletin" ends. They have also been

properly closed for the supplementary report herewith presented and will be again so closed at the date of this conference; whereupon the accounts will be placed in the hands of the Finance committee for audit and certification.

Respectfully submitted,
ANDERSON H. HOPKINS, Treasurer.

TREASURER'S REPORT, JANUARY 1, 1908, TO JUNE 1, 1908

Balance on hand Jan. 1, 1908 (May Bulletin, p. 39).....	\$949.59
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Receipts

Interest on bank balance.....	\$14.54
Dues	
975 members, \$2.00.....	\$1950.00
38 members, \$3.00.....	114.00
170 libraries, \$5.00.....	850.00
Fee for bank collection, \$.30.....	.30

5 members (life), \$25.00.....	125.00
Polk, Kidder, Carr, Ward and Owen.	
A. L. A. Publishing Board, acct. Dudley & Hodge (binding).....	2.00
Sales of Proceedings and Bulletin.....	122.16
Trustees of Endowment fund.....	159.22

	\$4286.81

Payments

Bookbinding committee	
1908.	
Feb. 29. Bernard C. Steiner, expenses to New York.....	\$9.00
" 29. W. P. Cutter, expenses to New York.....	9.51
" 29. J. C. Dana, expenses to New York.....	5.00
Apr. 28. New England druggist publishing co., 3000 reprints	6.50
May 30. W. P. Cutter, expenses New York, May 19-20.....	8.85
" 30. Bernard C. Steiner, expenses New York, May 19-20..	5.52
" 30. Arthur E. Bostwick, circulars and envelopes.....	15.51

	\$59.89
Bulletin	
Feb. 28. Carter, Rice & co., envelopes.....	15.50
" 28. New England druggist publishing co., title page and index	43.00
" 29. Union bookbinding co., inserting Bulletin.....	2.75
" 29. A. L. A. Publishing board, editorial service on Proceedings for 1907.....	100.00
" 29. New England Druggist publishing co., 3000 reprints..	7.00
" 28. New England druggist publishing co., title page and March Bulletin.....	67.50
" 28. Union bookbinding co., inserting Bulletin.....	2.00
May 30. Union bookbinding co., inserting Bulletin.....	2.25
" 30. New England druggist publishing co., printing May Bulletin	57.00
500 reprints Conference notes.....	3.50

	800.50

Headquarters, 34 Newbury St., Boston

Jan.	Annie A. Sullivan, rent, February-June, 1908.....	416.65
" 29.	E. F. Brennan, salary for January, 1908.....	35.00
Feb. 18.	A. Hathaway's sons, architectural plans.....	4.80
" 29.	New England telephone & tel. co., telephone service	4.25
Apr. 6.	New England telephone & tel. co., telephone service	4.40
" 6.	Annie A. Sullivan, cleaning 34 Newbury St.....	6.80
" 6.	J. I. Wyer, Jr., expenses to Boston and return.....	22.65
" 28.	New England telephone & tel. co., telephone service	8.35
" 28.	New England Druggist publishing co., 1000 envelopes	2.50
May 30.	Nina E. Browne, petty office expense.....	14.52
" 30.	Rob't A. Boit & co., insurance on Arch. collection...	10.00
" 30.	New England telephone & tel. co., telephone service	7.45
" 30.	Nina E. Browne, services.....	100.00

637.37

Committee on Library administration

Apr. 28.	Brandon printing co., circulars.....	18.00
May 30.	Corinne Bacon, postage and clerical work.....	7.00

25.00

Secretary's office

Apr. 6.	J. I. Wyer, Jr., postage.....	11.04
May 30.	H. A. Chapman, stenographic service.....	37.85
" 30.	Dudley & Hodge, binding.....	16.00

64.89

Secretary's salary

May 30.	J. I. Wyer, Jr., salary, Jan. 1-June 30.....	125.00	125.00
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Treasurer's expense

Jan. 21.	New England druggist publishing co., bill heads and envelopes	15.50
Feb. 18.	New England druggist publishing co., 1600 postal cards	19.00
May 30.	Anderson H. Hopkins, postage and telegrams.....	3.83

38.33

Trustees A. L. A. Endowment fund

Apr. 28.	Four (4) life memberships.....	100.00	100.00
	Polk, Kidder, Carr, Ward.		
Jan. 6.	Nina E. Browne, Cash advanced, bank account	100.00	
" "	postage	40.00	
" "	petty expense.....	20.00	

160.00

Balance on hand June 1, 1908.....	2775.83
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\$4286.81

FINANCIAL SUMMARY, 1907

The following statement is compiled by the Secretary from the books of the Treasurer and by omitting all duplicate, refunded and accommodation entries it shows clearly and briefly the legitimate and regular receipts of the Association and its actual expenditures for the calendar year 1907.

Balance on hand Jan. 1, 1907 (Asheville Proc. p. 19).....	\$2721.27
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Receipts

Membership dues, 1352 at \$2.....	\$2704.00
223 at 3.....	669.00
199 at 5.....	995.00
8 at 25.....	200.00
1 at 100.....	100.00
	<hr/>
Fees for collecting checks.....	4668.00
Interest on endowment funds.....	2.90
Interest on bank deposits.....	417.85
Sale of Proceedings.....	56.73
Individual contributions.....	13.66
	<hr/>
	150.00
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	\$8030.41

Payments

Bulletin (including Proceedings and Handbook).....	\$1626.01
Asheville conference.....	493.13
Headquarters	
Salaries	\$2882.48
Rent	420.81
Sundry	427.28
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Secretary's salary.....	3730.57
Secretary's office expenses.....	250.00
Treasurer's office expenses.....	119.61
Committees and sections.....	126.88
Paid Trustees of Endowment fund	
Life and perpetual members.....	434.62
Balance Dec. 31, 1907.....	300.00
	<hr/>
	949.59
	<hr/>
	\$8030.41

The PRESIDENT: This report will be accepted, referred and audited in the usual manner.

The Secretary then read the reports of the Council and Executive board. (See p. 406)

The PRESIDENT: It is now proper for the Chair to announce the members of some committees which it is customary for him to appoint. The Committee on Resolutions will consist of Mr George T. Little, Miss Mary W. Plummer and Mr C. R. Dudley. The tellers of election are Mr C. E. Rush and Mr C. H. Milam.

The report of the A. L. A. Publishing board was presented by Mr H. E. Legler.

REPORT OF THE A. L. A. PUBLISHING BOARD

In compliance with the provisions of Section 22 of the A. L. A. constitution, the annual report of the Publishing board is hereby submitted. Customary figures and statistics hereto appended are for the calendar year 1907. In other respects this report aims to summarize the result of the Board's transactions for the library year ending this month.

Finding that the financial resources of the American Library Association would not permit the continuance of headquarters with the administrative machinery operative during the past few years, the